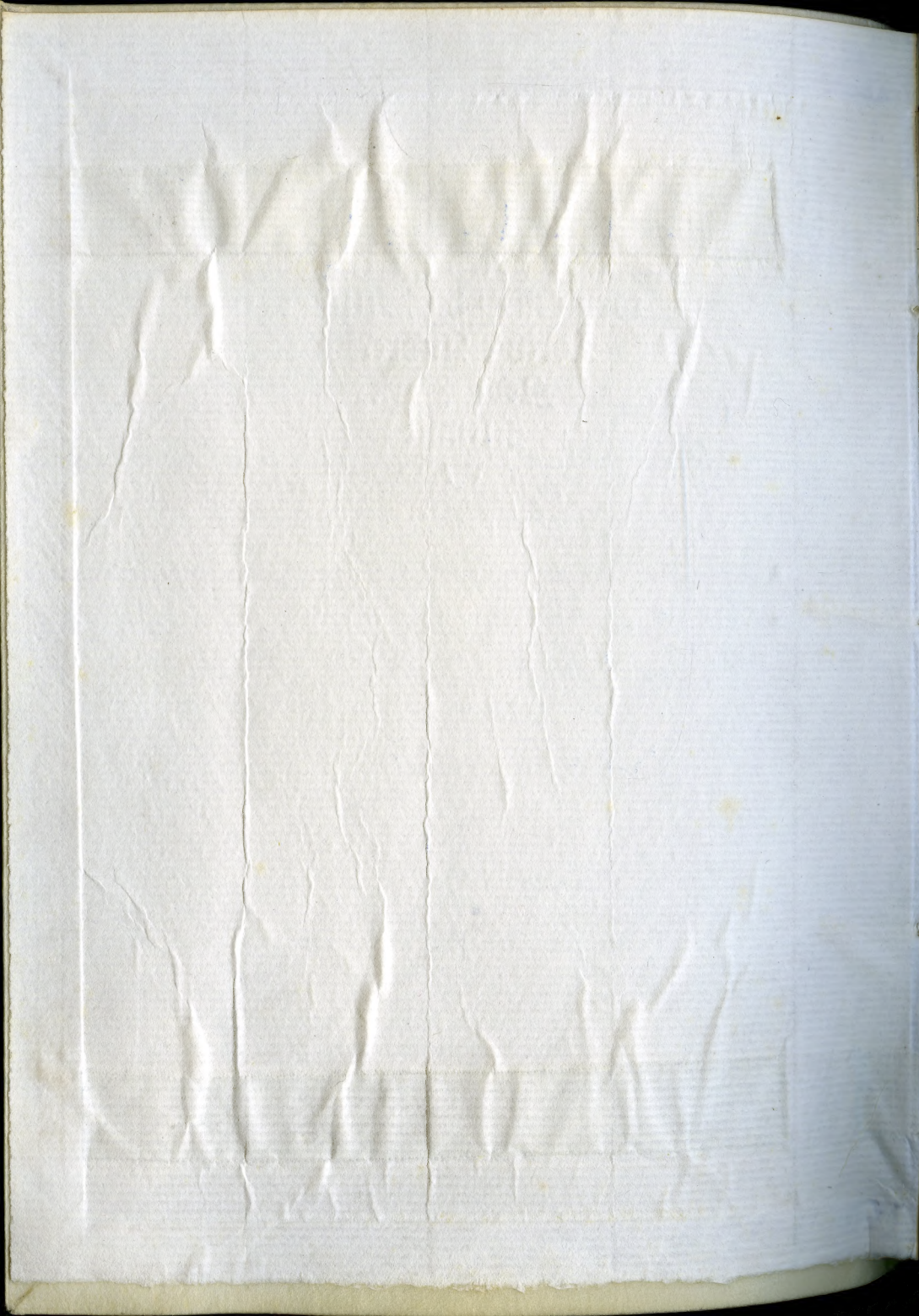
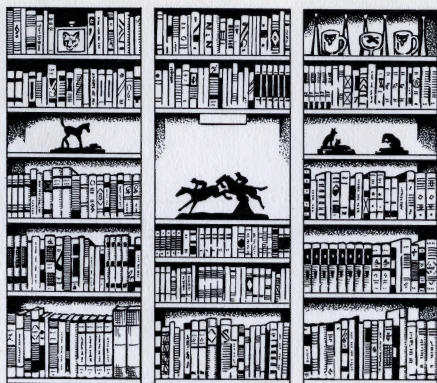



**¶ The Treatise of Fysshynge wyth
an Angle. ¶ From the Book of St.
Albans: With an introduce
tory Essay by William
Loring Andrews
New York
McMurrin**







Ex Libris
JOHN AND MARTHA DANIELS

2

The Church of
England and its People
and
the Book of Common Prayer
and
the Liturgy of the Church
by
William Loring Burrows

**The Treatise of
Fysshynge wyth an Angle
from
The Book of Saint Albans
with an
Introductory Essay
by
William Loring Andrews**




Copyright 1903

By William Loring Andrews



**Of this book there have been printed
One hundred and sixty copies
all on hand-made paper**

“ There look whereas that poplar gray
doth grow,
Hard by the same when one doth
closely stand,
And with the winde his hooke and bait
doth throw
Amid the stream with slender hazell
wand,
Whereas he sees the dace themselves
do show,
His eye is quick, and ready is his
hand;
And when the fish doth rise to catch
the baite,
He presently doth strike, and takes her
straight.”

John Denny.



The Treatise of Synthyng with
 an Angle. From the Book of St.
 Albans, printed by Wynkyn de
 Worde at Westmynster in the
 year MCCCCXXII. With
 an introductory Essay up
 on the Contemplative
 Man's favorite Recre-
 ation By William
 Loring Andrews
 New York
 Scribner

According to The Venerable
 Bede, the father of English
 History, and other ancient author-
 ities, the Angles or Engels were one
 of the three Low German tribes, a
 branch of the Teutonic family "men
 with long, fair hair and fiercely
 blue eyes," who passed over from
 the Continent of Europe and took
 possession of different parts of Eng-

"There looke whereas that poplar gray
doth grow,
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John Denys.



The Treatyle of Fysshynge wyth
an Angle. **F**rom the Book of St.
Albans, printed by Wynkyn de
Worde at Westminster in the
year Mccccxxxvi. **W**ith
an introductory Essay up
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New York
Mcmiii

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land: hence the name Anglia or England.

The compiler of the "Angler's Souvenir" (London, 1845), with the apposite name of P. Fisher, Esq., however, does not take kindly to this etymology, and submits the counter proposition that the name Anglia or Aengle-land is derived from Angling, a conjecture which he thinks will be considerably strengthened when we consider, that the more ancient name Britannia is most probably derived from Brit-hyl, a trout, meaning the country abounding in trouts, and not, as others have suggested, from Brith, in supposed allusion to the British practice of staining the body with Woad, a plant cultivated for the blue dye that its crushed and fermented leaves produce. **M**r. Fisher makes a brave effort to set this fine feather in the angler's cap, and we certainly shall not stop to quarrel with him for attempting to show, that we of the Anglo-Saxon race, through inherited traits of character, come honestly by a love of angling. **W**e simply tell the tale as it was told to us and then follow Isaac Walton's advice and "fall to business."

There are no two human temperaments that resemble one another more closely than those which manifest themselves in angli-mania (to employ a word coined by that ardent life-long fisherman, the author of "Notes

Ambrosianae”) and bibliomania. ¶ Both angling and book-hunting are quiet-minded and contemplative pursuits. ¶ They call for the exercise of the same virtues, patience and perseverance, and they must be inborn and not acquired tastes. ¶ We have the assertion of Izaak Walton himself that “angling is something like poetry, a man must be born to it, and you cannot make a man who was none, an angler by a book.” ¶ It must be a natural gift. ¶ So likewise a passion for book-collecting must be bred in the bone if one is to become a Doctor at it. ¶ Furthermore the angler and the book-hunter assuredly are twin brothers in one respect,—both have been made from time immemorial the sport of cheap wits and overwise men. ¶ An easy thing it is, as Father Walton says, to scoff at any Art or Recreation, “a little wit mixt with ill-nature will do it,” and with an Attic philosophy that all true anglers admire and applaud, “free, pleasant and civilly merry,” Walton proceeds to deftly turn the tables upon these revilers of his gentle and mysterious art.

“**A**ND for you,” he writes, “that have heard many grave, serious men pity Anglers; let me tell you, sir, there be many men that are by others taken to be serious and grave men, which we contemn and pity, When

that are taken to be grave, because Nature hath made them of a sower complexion, money-getting men, Men who spend all their time first in getting, and next in anxious care to keep it, Men that are condemned to be rich, and then always bustle or discontented, for these poor-rich men, we Anglers pity them perfectly and stand in no need to borrow their thoughts to think ourselves so happy." Full well doth the Elizabethan poet, Robert Greene, express in his "Farewell to Folly" the short and simple creed of Izaak Walton and of his true disciples in every age:

Sweete are the thoughts that labour
of content,

The quiet mind is richer than a
crowne :

Sweete are the nights in careless slum-
ber spent,

The poor estate scornes fortune's
angry frowne.

Such sweete content, such mindes,
such sleep, such blis

Beggars enjoy when Princes oft
doe miss.

SAve for the tinge of innate savagery
which differentiates the two sensations,
the pleasure of unearthing, after days of pa-

tient search, a rare volume on a book-seller's
 dingy stall, is akin to the joy that kindles in
 the angler's breast when with a "well-dissem-
 bled lie" he lures a fine trout from his "long-
 kept lair" in the swift, clear stream, and after
 a battle royal, drops him panting into his creel.

Eugene Field, (about the orthodoxy and in-
 tenseness of whose bibliomania there is no
 more question than there is as to the original-
 ity and inimitable sweetness of his nursery
 rhymes) avoided even the appearance of any
 brutality that may appertain to the sport, by
 his clever device of "fender-fishing,"* the de-
 lights and advantages of which he advocates
 with zeal and eloquence, while he laughs
 ironically at the man who bies him to the
 waterside, equipped with an elaborate angler's
 outfit and carries a fly-fisher's Entomology for
 a pocket companion.

"With
 my shins
 soaking
 before a
 roaring fire,
 and with
 Judge De-
 thuen at my
 side, I love
 to exploit
 the joys and
 the glories
 of angling."
 Eugene
 Field.

"When I invade a pickerel hole
 Or seek a troutling brook
 I'll take along an alder pole
 And use a Limerick book."

"Of flylith tackle fair to see
 Let modern sportsmen prate,
 But leave the modest bob to me,
 With angle worms for bait."

*From Eugene Field's
"Love Affairs of a
Bibliomaniac."

The inveterate joker must be allowed to indulge his sportive humor, but we forgive him, for all the while his heart is as true to his "homely brown Walton" as the needle to the pole, and the persiflage of his verse is lost in the flow of sentiment and tender feeling with which he bids the little treasure of his heart farewell, in these pathetic lines :

By "Walton," soon must we part forever ;
when I am gone say unto him
who next shall have thee to his
own that with his latest breath
an old man blessed thee.*

A Proper ending, this, to an Essay which the writer thereof begins with the admission, that he would like to have met Isaac Walton. **T**hat "he was indeed one of the few authors he knows he should like to have met : for he was a wise man and had understanding."

Washington Irving also succumbed to the witchery of the "excellent piece" writ by this lovable, simple-minded man, and yielded himself, body and soul, for the time being, to the influence of the "seductive pages" of his "Angler," but he proved as poor a practical exponent of the gentle craft Walton professed to teach, as was the gifted author of "With Trumpet and Drum."

After studying the "Complete Angler" and becoming bitten with the angling mania, the genial Geoffrey Crayon recounts in his delightful Sketch Book how "he took rod in hand and sallied into the country, as stark mad as was Don Quixote from reading books of Chivalry. **I**n half an hour he had 'satisfied the sentiment;' he hooked himself instead of the fish, tangled his line in every tree, lost his bait, broke his rod, until he gave up the attempt in despair, and passed the day under the trees, reading old Izaak; satisfied that it was his fascinating vein of honest simplicity and rural feeling that had bewitched him and not the passion for angling."

But above all, Irving remembers the "good honest wholesome repast, which he and his friends made under a beech tree just by a spring of pure sweet water that stole out of the side of a hill; and how, when it was over, one of the party read old Izaak Walton's scene with the milk-maid, while he lay on the grass and built castles in a bright pile of clouds until he fell asleep."

Wake up! drowsy Diedrich Knickerbocker, wake up from your noon-tide nap; abandon for the nonce your "dolce far niente" and bear us company awhile adown this woodland stream. **W**e promise you that

nature will reveal to you more of her charms in a half-hour's walk hence, than will enter your imagination or cross your dreams the live-long day lying there among the ox-eyed daisies.

Vista after vista of sylvan loveliness will open before us as we tramp through the forest, resonant with the notes and cries of its furred and feathered denizens, raised in vehement and indignant protest against our invasion of their secret haunts—and the shifting lights and shadows that fleck the foaming rapids and the dark brown pools where hidden lie the trout, will disclose new effects of form and color at every forward step. **C**ome wade the brook with us this afternoon and try your 'prentice hand to catch a trout. **T**he most "gallant" one we take, we will "e'en eat him to supper."

Sounds! our "gentle humorist" is still as deeply wrapped in slumber as was ever his own creation, that phenomenal sleeper, Rip Van Winkle, and our words have whistled aimlessly down the wind, but we must forbear swearing lest, as Father Walton gravely warns us, "We be overheard and catch no fish."

If we are to take these two self-indulgent individuals at their word, it is evident that if they had belonged to the same generation, they would have been "hail fellows well met" so far as angling by the brookside was concerned:

fishermen on paper only, and bunglers, as Irving frankly confesses himself to have been at all kinds of "sport that required either patience or adroitness." ¶ There be divers such men, and contrariwise, there are others, very skillful anglers, who not only have never read a line of old Izaak's discourse, but to whom that author is as though he had never existed.

¶ One of the most accomplished anglers I have ever known, a fisherman to the backbone, when I casually mentioned to him the revered name of the "common father of all anglers," imagined that I referred to the worthy old New Yorker who erected that well-known landmark the Walton House in Franklin Square.

¶ Nevertheless, when it came to artistic fly-casting, I was glad to be his scholar.

¶ The earliest printed Treatise in English on fishing with an angle, is ascribed unhesitatingly by Sir John Hawkins, the best known of Waltonian editors and commentators, to a fair lady, Dame Juliana Berners, Bernes or Barnes, Prioress in the middle of the fifteenth century, of the Nunery of Sopwell near St. Albans, a lady of noble family, and celebrated for her beauty, wit and learning, as befits a heroine of mediaeval story. ¶ "Faemina illustris! corporis et animi dotibus abun-

Falsa

* "An illustrious lady: abundantly gifted both in body and mind and charming in the elegance of her mien."

dans ac forma elegantia spectabilis* saith the learned Bale. ¶ "Considering," quoth William Blades, the Carton expert, "that the name of the lady is the whole of the text upon which Bale had to build, this is by no means a bad specimen of imaginative biography."

This feminine authorship is scouted by other modern writers besides the sceptical William Blades, and is declared by one of them to be not only unsupported by even a shadow of proof, but negatived by the following circumstances.

¶ **I**C (the 'Treatyse of Fysshynge') does not occur in the first edition (1486) of the Book of St. Albans, and upon its introduction into that work by Wynkyn de Worde (in the second edition, 1496) he explains his motives for inserting it in a manner which almost establishes the fact that it was not the production of that celebrated woman." ¶ The quotation from the Book of St. Albans given in support of the above contention appears to furnish an inconclusive argument either way, but the chain of evidence presented by Dr. Bethune (the eloquent divine, a lover of the angle and the first and foremost of American Waltonian scholars) against the claim of Juliana Berners is more complete; and one of Bernard Quaritch's (the London bibliopole)

careful and painstaking bibliographers* plays, as will presently appear, complete havoc with this long cherished tradition; but whether this first essay upon the "Contemplative Man's Recreation" is or is not the production of a certain prioress of the Convent to which clings so much romance and tragedy—for here the fickle-hearted Henry the VIIIth, it is reputed, secretly courted and espoused the lovely and ill-fated Anne Boleyn—the name of the real or imaginary religious recluse of Sootwell Nunnerie is indissolubly connected for all time with this honest little "Treatyse on Fysshynge with an Angle." **S**o continue to "Say, child, where you goe, my dame taught you soe." **I**t is too pretty a story to be spoiled, if we can help it, and we shall not allow even the cold, hard analysis we are about to quote to give it in our thoughts its "coup de grâce."

In his catalogue "Monuments of Printing," issued in the year 1897, Mr. Quaritch offers for sale a copy of the "Book of St. Albans," A.D. 1486, for the sum of £500. **T**o a careful and scholarly collation of this great book rarity, the compiler of the catalogue adds the following note: **"**The first of the long line of English sporting books, excessively rare. **I**t fetched £147 at the Duke of Roxburghe's sale when it was very imperfect. **I**t has since then

* Mr.
Michael
Kerney,
who died
in 1901.

been made perfect at enormous expense by the late Lord Ashburnham, and may now stand in successful rivalry with any of the rarest and most coveted treasures of the early English press."

IT is one of the curiosities of English literary history that the inscription at the end of the second part has led to the creation of an authoress who never existed: namely, Dame Juliana Berners, Prioress of Sopwell near St. Albans. **S**uch a person is unknown to the records of Sopwell. **T**he printer of the work is known, from an allusion made by Wynkyn de Worde, to have been a 'Schoolmaster of St. Alban.' **H**is name has never been disclosed, although it is found in the index to Dr. Chauncey's Hertfordshire as "John Insomuch" in consequence of an absurd deduction (Blades regards it as a joke), from the use of the word Insomuch at the beginnings of some chapters of the book. **H**e compiled this volume from three different sources and divided it into three parts, thus—Hawking, Hunting, Heraldry; interspersing the divisions with miscellaneous scraps of information and popular rhymes derived from Chaucer and others. **T**he second part, a metrical treatise on Hunting, is written imaginatively, as the instructions of a school dame to her children (Bairns). **T**he author, who was fond of quaint rhym-

ing in a Northern cast of language (it may be remembered that there was a close relation between Cynemouth and St. Albans), was perhaps connected with St. Julian's House or Hospital (*Domus Juliani*), attached to St. Alban Abbey. **S**ome such phrase as *Domus Juliani pueri* might easily have led to *Dam Julians Barns*."

IF Dame Juliana Berners be, as is herein declared, a myth and a fictitious character she will find congenial company in that realm of the imagination where Bunyan's Christian, De Foe's Robinson Crusoe, and Walton's Master and his Scholar have their being:—creatures of the brain—who sometimes seem to be the only real and abiding substances, while men and women of warm flesh and blood, are, by comparison, mere shadows that "so come and so depart;" for these children of the fancy, or of legendary lineage, who have won the world's attention and regard, gain in distinctness with the passage of time, while the outlines of the forms of even those exalted human beings who have "strutted out life's little day," in the very centre of the stage, grow more and more confused as the mists of antiquity thicken around them, and the number of historians increases, whose chief delight it is to flatly contradict each other.

*Gouda or
Tergow—
“a large
and strong
town” of
South Hol-
land on the
Riber Jstel.
—Gerard
Leeu, who
printed
here,
remoted to
Antwerp in
1484.

AND now in order to get at the root of this whole matter, we introduce here as a corollary to this fifteenth century Creatysle on fishing, the “wooden sculpture,” of an angler fishing with a float, taken from the “Dyalogus Creaturarium,” Goudae E. G., Leeu, 1481,* which is thought, and is certainly sufficiently archaic to be, the earliest printed representation of an angler in existence.

† This rare and curious example of the illustrated books of the Early Dutch Press was translated into English at the beginning of the sixteenth century under the title of “The Dialogues of Creatures Moralized.”



THese are the very foundation stones of a piscatorial collection, but alas and alack! they are quite unobtainable, and have been so for many a long year.†

THIS wood engraving is reproduced from the one in the “Dyalogus Creaturarium,” which appears at the head of a dialogue—the 44th of the series—between a Pike and a Tench as to an angler’s bait. **T**he following is a translation of this dialogue from the crabbed Latin of the original.

“**A** Fiſher was fiſhing. ¶ When he held out the baited hook to the fiſhes, the pike and the tench gazing at the bait had an immense longing for it. ¶ But the pike ſhrewdly ſaid to the tench, ‘This meat looks delicious and ſuperior, but I believe it is put there to deceive fiſhes. ¶ Let us therefore reſign it, leſt the deſire in our gullets prove our ruin.’ ¶ Said the tench, ‘It is not right to reſign ſo ſuperior a morſel out of idle fear—firſt I will try it and feaſt on the dainty; do you wait and ſee how the venture turns out.’ ¶ But as he ſwallowed it he felt the treacherous hook and would have retreated, but the fiſherman pulled her in. ¶ The pike on the other hand fled and ſaid, ‘Leſt we periſh, let us mend our ways by our friend’s miſfortune.’ ¶ Thus ought we to mend our ways by the miſfortunes of others. ¶ As Cato ſaith, ‘Let the miſfortune of thy neighbor be thine own diſcipline.’ ¶ And Seneca, ‘It is well to behold in the miſfortunes of others the miſtakes we ſhould avoid.’ ¶ He ſaith alſo, ‘Another’s fault will lead the wiſe man to mend his own.’ ¶ Thus we ſee that he who is wiſe will know how to manage his own affairs and will take others as an example of how he ſhould guard againſt diſaſter. ¶ So Aelop tells a ſtory of a lion who, after having lived an active life, had fallen into weak-

ness. **T**he lay in his den and received visits of sympathy from the animals, and when they came near him he would catch and eat them. **A**t last the fox, too, called to inquire after his health, but stood outside at the door of the den, for he was afraid to go near the lion. **T**o whom the lion: 'Come hither, my sister, that we may have sweet talks together.' **T**o whom the fox: 'Footmarks of people going in I see, but I can see none of any returning.' "

This is rational and coherent conversation whatever one may think of the selfish doctrine the fable inculcates. **I**t remained for Lewis Carroll to show us in "Alice in Wonderland" how delightfully birds, beasts and fishes could be made to talk sheer nonsense.

The colophon to the first edition of the Book of St. Albans reads as follows: "Here in thys boke afore ar contenyt the bokys of hauking, and huntyng, With other pleauris dyuerse, as in the boke apperis; and also of Cootarmuris, a nobill Werke. **A**nd here now endyth the boke of blasynge of armys Translatyt and compylt to gedyr at Seynt albons, the yere from thincarnacion of owre lorde Ihu Crist, M. CCCC. LXXXVJ."

The Treatise on Angling, in the second edition, is added to the title thus:

"Here begynneth The Treatise of Fysshynge
wyth an angle."

Imprynted at Westmestre by Wynkyn the
Morde the yere Thyncarnacon of our Lorde.
M. CCCC. LXXXVJ.

There were a number of sixteenth-century
black-letter copies of Juliana Berners'
"Boke of Haukyng, Huntynge and Fysshynge,
with all the Properties and Medecynes that
are necessary to be kepte"—published in small
quarto form. **O**ne of these was imprynted at
London by Wyllyam Powell (no date), an-
other by Abraham Dele and Wyllyam Cop-
land, London, n. d. **C**opies of both these
books were offered for sale by William Pick-
ering in a catalogue dated June, 1832. **T**he
Powell edition, of which, it is stated, that only
one other copy was then known to exist, was
priced ten guineas. **T**he Dele and Copland
edition, thought to be unique, was valued at
twelve guineas. **T**hese two remarkable books
—enough in themselves to confer unique dis-
tinction upon any bookseller's catalogue—are
followed by the first five editions of Walton's
"Angler," uniformly bound in Venetian (?)
morocco, which are offered—mirabile dictu!—
for the sum of £21, a mere bagatelle compared
to the present price of the first edition, as may be
seen from this clipping from a recent catalogue

of Pickering and Chatto, the London booksellers, who advertise for sale a copy of "this precious little gem" which is not, by their own admission, in perfect condition, but no one need expect to find an undoctored first Walton in spotless condition. **I**t was too popular a book in its day for that. **A** copy free from stains and thumb marks will quite surely betray itself by the odor, more or less pungent, of the acids in which it has been washed.

"**C**3598 Walton (Isaac) 'The Compleat Angler', or the Contemplative Man's Recreation, Being a Discourse of Fish and Fishing, not unworthy the Perusal of Host Anglers. **S**imon Peter, said I go a fishing; and they said, We also will go with thee. **J**ohn 21, 3. **L**ondon, printed by T. Waxe for Rich. Harriot in S. Dunstan's Church-yard, Fleet-Street, 1653. **F**irst edition, engraved title and several engravings of fish, besides musical notations, 12mo, some headlines thorn, and one of the pages of music cut into, as is also a marginal note; otherwise a fine, sound, and genuine copy of the first issue, in old calf binding, enclosed in a slip case, £375."

Here we have a striking object lesson of the fact that literary or artistic value and rarity combined in a book, supply a lever which enhances the value thereof indefinitely and ir-

resistibly. ¶ The latest auction price of the first edition of Walton's "Compleat Angler" which reaches us before going to press with this essay, is announced in the following paragraph which we copy from the New York Sun of May 22, 1903. ¶ At a sale at Sotheby's to-day London, May 21, first editions of the Waverly Novels, with original boards, uncut, brought £500. ¶ Isaac Walton's "Compleat Angler" with fine binding, sold for £405.* ¶ The Pickwick Papers in original parts brought £142, and a second folio of Shakespeare, with Hamlets imprint, sold for £850.

* A fine copy with unusually wide margins. Bound in black morocco elaborately tooled (to judge from the style of decoration) by one of the Bearnes. It is now owned in this country.

I have not at hand the data wherewith to verify the statement, still I venture to make it, that Walton's "Compleat Angler," the "fragrant flower in the sternest chapter† of English history," as it is called by Andrew Lang, has passed through more editions than any seventeenth century book in the English tongue, the Bible, Book of Common Prayer, Shakespeare and Milton alone excepted. ¶ It stands pre-eminent in that class of books Charles Lamb describes as "perpetually self-reproductive volumes, Great Nature's Stereotypes." ¶ There is hardly a name in our literature, even of the first rank, says a writer in the Encyclopaedia Britannica, whose immor-

† A period which covered the Civil War (when the whole kingdom was in arms), the execution of Charles I. (1649), the Government of the Commonwealth (1649-1653) and the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell (1653-1660).

*Born in 1719. Knighted in 1772. Died in 1789. Although best known in connection with Walton's Angler, his history of music, in five volumes quarto, is a valuable work.

talities is more secure than Walton's, or whose personality is the subject of a more devoted cult, and (to conclude these panegyrics with which we might fill a volume of goodly size) every disciple of Isaac Walton will, I am sure, add a fervent amen to the following highly eulogistic tribute of Sir John Hawkins* to this unique example of the interlocutory form of writing.

“**N**O let no man imagine, that a work on such a subject must necessarily be unentertaining, or trifling, or even uninstructional; for the contrary will most evidently appear from a perusal of this excellent piece, which, whether we consider the elegant simplicity of the style, the ease and unaffected humour of the dialogue, the lovely scenes which it delineates, the enchanting pastoral poetry which it contains, or the fine morality it so sweetly inculcates, has hardly its fellow in any of the modern languages.”

WE must certainly accord to Sir John Hawkins the credit of having been the first of the moderns—to speak—to revive an interest in Walton's “Compleat Angler,” and give adequate expression to the feeling of admiration and warm affection with which the book is now regarded by all to whom its pages are familiar. **B**y his contemporaries both Walton and his “Angler” were loved and ad-

mired in fullſt measure, as Maſter Robert Floud attests by the chaplet he weaves for his friend, out of flowers of poesy such as in British seventeenth century Anthologies, and nowhere else, are seen.

“To my dear Brother, Mr. Jz. Walton, on his ‘Compleat Angler’—

“This Book is so like you, and you like it,

For harmless Birth, Expression, Art and Wit,

That I protest ingenuously, ’tis true,
I love this Birth, Art, Wit, the Book
and You.”

Strangely enough, Walton’s “Angler” appears to have attracted little or no attention for three-quarters of a century after his death, if we may judge from the fact that no reprint of it appears to have been called for during that entire period.

Five editions of the “Angler” were published in the author’s lifetime; the first in 1653 (advertised as a book “newly extant” at eighteen pence price), then again in 1655, 1661,* 1668, and 1676. All were issued by the same publisher, R. Harriot, London, in small sixteenmo volumes. The edition of 1676 (in which the thirteen chapters of the original are

*The third edition, says The Chronicle of “The Compleat Angler,” was issued in 1661; but before many copies had been sold the sale of the book was transferred from Richard Harriot to Simon Gape (‘near the Inner Temple Gate in Fleet Street’), by whom the remainder of the impression was sent forth, with a fresh title-page dated 1664.

*Although the Rev. Dr. Browne takes these liberties with the text of Walton's "Angler," he is labious in his praise of that "golden book" and its author and proclaims his innocent intentions in this naive manner: "Dr. Walton was a Writer of the true pastoral Character, in which perhaps he has not his Parallel, yet, through a willing

increased to twenty-one) has the general title of the "Universal Angler" added, and includes as a second part "The Compleat Angler" by Charles Cotton (the first edition of this work), and also "The Experienced Angler, or Angling Improved," by Colonel Robert Venables, "the fourth edition much enlarged." ¶ This has the plates of fish, which in Harriot's previous editions are supposed to have been engraved by Peter Lombart (and, it is thought by some, on silver), re-engraved in reverse. ¶ No new edition of the "Angler" appeared until 1750, when the Reverend Moses Browne, author of "Piscatory Eclogues," as he is particular to let us know, and one—says Dr. Beethune—of the chief poetical supporters of "The Gentleman's Magazine," undertook at the instigation of Dr. Samuel Johnson, to edit an edition of "Walton and Cotton," in which he retrenched and pruned away with a heavy hand what he deemed redundancies and inaccuracies in Walton's and Cotton's sentences. ¶ He abstracted, unwittingly, from this "well-spring of English pure and undefiled" not a little of its quaintness and originality, stifled the fresh, free morning air that scented and rustled its leaves, hushed here and there a note in the loud clear song of the Lark and Nightingale, and 'minished the fragrance of the

flow'ry meads through which Walton led his honest Scholar, and these misdirected efforts the Reverend Moses Browne complacently calls "filing off a little of that Rust which Time fixes on the most curious and finished Things." **T**hat, which in his dim understanding, he mistook for rust, was refined gold, according to the consensus of literary criticism in all subsequent ages.*

This mangled text of Moses Browne was published in a duodecimo volume by Henry Kent, London, 1750. **I**t contains a frontispiece and five scenes engraved on copper by W. Burgh, and a number of woodcuts of fish. **I**n 1759, the same publisher issued a second edition, also in duodecimo, with four additional plates by Burgh, and in 1772 a third and last in small octavo, in which some of the passages expurgated by Browne were restored—probably as the result of his controversy with Sir John Hawkins, and the appearance of Sir John's Walton and Cotton's "Complete Angler" with the author's text restored to its pristine purity, and with "annotations to such passages as an interval of more than one hundred years had necessarily rendered obscure." **T**his new "Walton and Cotton" scored a marked success, for in less than thirty years after its first publication in 1760 by Thomas Hope, it

Inattention, and the Faults of the Age in which he wrote, some few Inaccuracies and Redundancies have insinuated themselves, which I should be injurious to him as an Editor, not to retrench and prune away. I have been modest and sparing in my Touches," Extract from Moses Browne's Preface to "The Complete Angler." March 16, 1749.

*In addition to these Bagster also issued in 1810 a facsimile edition of the "Angler" in square twelvemo.

† See R. B. Barston's "Walton and some earlier writers on fish and fishing," London, 1894.

passed through eight editions (each more or less amended, augmented and otherwise improved), namely, in 1766, 1775, 1784, 1791, 1797 (revised by Sir John Hawkins' son Sidney), and in 1808. ¶ The last being printed for Samuel Bagster, so that it is known as the first Bagster and seventh Hawkins. ¶ In 1815 Bagster issued a second edition with notes by Sir

Henry Ellis which constituted an eighth Hawkins.* ¶ In 1822 "Thomas Gosden reprinted Hawkins' edition with a new set of plates which did triple duty, they being offered for sale in a separate shape, and employed to illustrate the reprint of Zouch's Life of Walton, published by Gosden in 1823 and subsequently."†

¶ The eight full-page illustrations which adorn the Hawkins edition of 1760 are imitations, not copies, of the plates in Browne.

¶ These quaintly pretty scenes have been—with variations—so frequently repeated that they have become almost a necessary part and parcel of a Walton and Cotton "Compleat Angler."

¶ The designs were drawn by Samuel Wale, one of the founders of the Royal Academy, "but scarcely remembered now by any other drawings, except those made for book-illustration." ¶ They were engraved by William W. Ryland, an English engraver, a pupil of three great French artists, namely, Ravenet,

Boucher and J. P. Le Bas. **H**e was an artist, as it ultimately proved, of altogether too much ability and dexterity for his own good, for he was hanged in 1783 for a forgery committed upon the East India Company.

* Published
by Thomas
Cegg and
others,
London and
Glasgow.

The Male drawings were re-engraved for Bagster's edition of 1808 by the French engraver, Philip Audinet, who also engraved the beautiful plates of fish which adorn this and Bagster's subsequent edition (1815). **D**r. Bethune describes a copy of this book in his possession which contained double plates of the fish beautifully colored. **I** have never had the good fortune to meet with it in this exceptional state.

Passing over the well-printed Chiswick edition of 1824, in two volumes, small sixteenmo,* which is, however, void of illustrations save for the portraits of Walton and Cotton and the woodcuts on the title-pages, we arrive in chronological sequence at the beautiful editions of John Baskin in crown octavo, perhaps, on the whole, the most desirable of all the modern editions of Walton and Cotton. **T**he first edition, London, 1823, must have been quickly exhausted, for it was reprinted the following year, again in 1835, and for the fourth time in 1844. **A** copy of this book, with its artistic woodcuts and beautiful copper-plates designed and engraved by the best artists of a

*In 1866 Little and Brown of Boston issued an American reprint of the Major edition. It is a well-made book, but will not compare with the London edition.

period when these arts were most flourishing, is an indispensable adjunct to a Waltonian collection. **Dr. Bethune** is unstinted in his praise of this book, and expresses his appreciation of it in these unmeasured terms:

"I T is profusely illustrated: the portrait of Walton, after the original by Housman, and that of Cotton, after the original by Lely, engraved by H. Robinson; the scenes, after designs by Absolon, engraved by Wilmore, and the woodcuts of which there are a great number, chiefly by Jackson. **It** is impossible to praise too highly the designs, or execution of the engravings, or the delicacy of the woodcuts. **A**rt could scarcely go further, and no more elegant volume can find place in a library than a large-paper copy of the last edition of Major.* . . . **The** edition was printed by Nicol for Bogue: London."

†The smallest Walton ever printed.

AND now we find another of London's foremost publishers, tempted by the alluring bait, bending all his energies towards the production of a beautiful edition of "Walton and Cotton." **William Pickering's** miniature edition in 1825† was the avant-courier of his sumptuous edition in two volumes, imperial octavo, London, 1836, the coming of which was announced in the following prospectus, which

shows that this, Pickering's masterpiece in bookmaking, must have been more than a half score years in preparation. ¶ The creation of a fine book is as slow and tedious a process as the construction of a mansion or the building of a great ship. ¶ Why should it not be, for it may outlast them both?

William Pickering, who rejoiced in the title of "an old angler and a bibliopolist," adopted the Aldine anchor and dolphin as his printer's mark, occasionally using the punning one of a pike and ring. ¶ He called himself the English disciple of the Venetian printer and proved it to be no idle boast, for he added lustre to the annals of English typography and made the name of Pickering as synonymous with good bookmaking as did the learned Italian he chose for a model. ¶ Unlike, however, Aldus Manutius, and his successors in the management of the world-renowned "Stamperia" in the city "throned in state on her hundred isles," Pickering was not a printer. ¶ The typography of the books he published he intrusted principally to the capable hands of the Whittinghams, Charles, the elder, and his nephew and namesake, of the famous Chiswick Press. ¶ This division of labor in the making of a book was a thing unknown to the early printers. ¶ They both built and launched

the ship and sent it forth to its destiny laden with all their hopes and fears and with a silent prayer for its success. **P**ickering thus announces his monumental undertaking:

The Prospectus.
Preparing for Publication.
Walton's "Angler."

A New Edition
With Designs
By
C. Stothard, Esq., R.A.

TH the admirers of Walton no apology need be offered for attempting to produce an edition of the "Complete Angler," more highly embellished than any of its predecessors, and executed in all respects in a style of unrivalled excellence.

The designs of Wall (Wale and Nash) have been frequently copied, and not always so successfully as those engraved by Ryland in 1760. **I**t is intended, therefore, to introduce in the present edition eight engravings from original designs, by Thomas Stothard, Esq., R. A., together with portraiture of the fish, drawn from living subjects and actual views of the places mentioned in the work from

drawings made on the spot by the same celebrated artist.

The text will be most carefully revised throughout; and with the aid of materials now in possession of the Editor, an edition may be expected more correct than any yet published.

*Piscium
Vivæ
Icones.
In æs
incisæ et
editæ ab.
Adriano
Collaerto.
Oblongo
quarto
(f.l. et, a.)

Notes original and selected will be added; and in an appendix will be reprinted entire, the celebrated "Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle," from the "Book of St. Albans," by Dame Julians Barnes, which is distinguished as the first tract published on the art.

Names of subscribers and other communications will be received by the publisher, William Pickering, Chancery Lane, where specimens of the Illustrations may be seen."

One may readily pick flaws in this prospectus if inclined to be critical. **T**he eight designs by Stothard too closely resemble those by Wale to be strictly styled originals and the fishes are by Inskip, not by Stothard, as the Prospectus appears to read. **T**hese representative examples of the finny tribe are accurately drawn, but the backgrounds are commonplace to the last degree and not to be compared with, for example, the Düreresque views of river and coast scenery that Adrian Collaert introduced in his "Piscium Vivæ Icones."* **I**n-

*George Daniel, 1789-1864. An author with whom, as he said himself, literature had been a relaxation, not a profession, the amusement of his leisure, not the every-day business of life, which had contributed to his happiest moments and shed a balm over his saddest. His library, which consisted largely of

skip should have taken a lesson from the Flemish sixteenth-century designer and engraver.

A Blemish and an eyesore appears upon most copies of this otherwise delightful book. **T**he paper, like so much of the book paper of that period, was contaminated with that chemical substance which sooner or later exuded upon the surface, and covered it with unsightly brown spots. **N**evertheless, with all its faults we love it still, and freely admit that Pickering made the promise of his prospectus good, in the main, and produced the finest "Walton and Cotton" that had yet appeared. **I**t still retains this pre-eminence. **N**o publisher has since attempted to excel it, and it is now too late, for the art of the wood and metal engraver which beautified these volumes has become lost through disuse and is no longer at his command.

Pickering's pride as a publisher and his fondness for the "right noble sport of angling" must have proved strong incentives to his task, and made it a labor of love, and what a thrill of satisfaction he must have felt when he displayed the completed work to his appreciative fellow members of the Walton and Cotton Club, a Society founded in 1817 in "veneration for the memory of honest Izaak Walton, and of high respect for that of the em-

inent Fly fifther Charles Cotton." **T**his club was limited to fifty members, who met to dine together three times a year, namely, on the second Wednesday in the months of April, May and June. **T**he dinner hour was sensibly set at six o'clock, as we are duly notified by one of the original invitations to this prandial celebration of the "delightful Science of Angling" in a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Club that lies before us, which has a number of extra plates inserted, and was bound by Charles Lewis in green morocco, the only proper color for a book on angling. **I**t was presented April 28, 1846, by William Pickering to his friend, George Daniel,* of Canonbury, Esq., a bibliophile of no small distinction, whose brief notes and signature in a book add considerably to the value thereof, as every book collector is well aware. **I** doubt me, however, if George Daniel, of Canonbury, Islington, was greatly given to the pursuit of angling, for his name is not enrolled among the members of the Walton and Cotton Club. **A**s a collector, however, of piscatory literature he reached high-water mark, for he had as a captheaf to a long row of "Waltons," a copy (said to be unique), of Wynkyn de Worde's small quarto undated edition of Dame Juliana Barnes' "Boke of Hawkyng and Huntynge and Flyfhyng"—a

early English literature, included the four folios and a great number of the quarto plays of Shakspeare. It was sold in July 1864 and with his prints, autographs and porcelain, realized £15,865, and this upon the basis of £27,10s. for a fine copy of the first "Walton" and £108 for the unique "Juliana Barnes."

The woodcut here shown is reproduced from the frontispiece to J. S., Gent's, "The True Art of Angling," London, 1689.

book believed by Mr. Daniel to be earlier than the same printer's edition of 1496, in small folio.

The particular dinner of this select little club above referred to, was called at the "Castle Hotel," Richmond, May 13, 1845? a



place not famed, we are informed by a frequenter of the spot, as an angling station, yet it is, he writes, "beautiful exceedingly" with its bridge, its mount and its park, and several times both above the bridge and below have we enjoyed excellent sport here—five in a punt "the more the merrier"—pulling up dace, roach, and perch, till the joint stock of the company amounted

in point of number and weight, if not of size and value to something considerable." **T**his sounds in the distance like the voice of a "pot hunter" and "bottom fisher," of one who might have taken Gervase Markham's "Young Sportsman's Delight" as a guide to the whole "Body of Angling," and carried in his waist-

coat pocket the little book on angling put forth by J. S., Gent.,* which teaches the Best and Speediest way of Taking all Sorts of Fresh Water Fish with the Worm, Fly, Paste, and other Baits in their proper seasons,—in other words, by hook or by crook. **A**nd yet this brother of the angle was familiar with and admired these lines of the poet Thomson, who is quite maudlin in his expression of sympathy for the “angleworm that is used for bait:”

“Now when the first torrent of the brooks
Swelled with the vernal rains is ebbd away,
And, whitening, down their mossy-tintured
stream

Descends the billowy foam; now is the time,
While yet the dark brown water aids the guile,
To tempt the trout, the well dissembled fly,
The rod fine tapering with elastic spring,
Snatched from the hoary steed the floating line,
And all thy slender watery stores prepare;
But let not on thy hook the tortured worm
Convulsive twist in agonizing folds;
Which by rapacious hunger swallowed deep,
Gives as you tear it from the bleeding breast
Of the weak, helpless, uncomplaining wretch
Harsh pain and horror to the tender hand.”

AD be sure, the “ground” fisherman,
When called to account, may point to

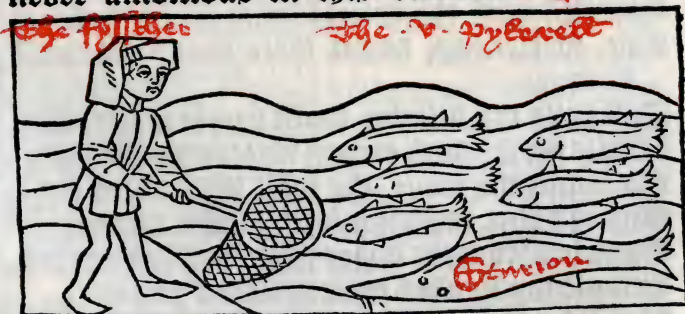
*London, printed for George Conyers at the Golden Ring, and John Sprint at the Bible in Little Britain, 1696. Price, bound, 6 d. A copy was recently quoted in a London catalogue at £22.10, which shows the difference between then and now.

*Lines to
F. L.
(Frederick
Locker-
Lampson),
in Preface
to the
Catalogue
of books
in "The
Rowfant
Library."

Walton as his exemplar. **A**s has been pithily said, it was Father Izaak's one "redeeming vice," and Andrew Lang has made sure that we shall not forget it by embalming it in his verse:

"Fair first editions, duly prized,
Above them all, methinks, I rate
The tome where Walton's hand revised
His wonderful receipts for bait!"*

A Large catch may be good fishing, but it is poor angling. **T**he true Angler is never ambitious in this direction. **O**n the



contrary, when the fish rise freely and are easily taken the sport quickly loses zest. **I**t is when the trout have grown timorous by frequent whipping of the water or indifferent to the fly by overfeeding, and the angler needs to employ all the skill and cunning of which he is master, in order to capture his prey, that his pleasure becomes the keenest. **I**f one is fishing for a

living, let him use a net, which obseruation affords us an opportunity to introduce (see opposite page) another of the curious woodcuts from the "Dyalogus Creaturarium."

These outline pictures are simple but authentic representations of possible fishing scenes, not the creations of a lively imagination like unto those with which Sir John Mandeville* caps his piscatorial romances in his Munchausen Book of Travels. **W**here followeth one of the marvellous tales that he relates, and the woodcut he produces in corroboration thereof.

*The Voyages and Travels of Sir John Mandeville, Knight, London (1640) wherein is set down the way to the Holy Land and to Hierusalem.



Chap. lviii., "Of the Isle called Calonach, where the fishes of the sea come once a year and lye neere the land, some time

on the land, and so lye three days and men of that land come thither and take of them what they will, and then go these fishes away and another sort cometh and lyeth also three days and men take of them, and thus do all manner of fishes till all have been there and men have taken what they will." ¶ This is, however, after all, only an exaggerated and embellished account of the habits of certain fish, and the truth which lies at the bottom of this romance is quite as strange as the web of fiction Sir John Mandeville weaves about it. ¶ The naturalist even at this late day is obliged to admit that there is a limit to his knowledge of ichthyology. ¶ Plebeian fish of the ilk of the black-fish and the flounder we have always with us. ¶ They are strictly home-bodies, but no man knoweth where in the caverns of the great deep the lordly salmon and the toothsome Gad roam and find the elixir of life, during their many months of absence from the rivers of their birth, whence they depart so weak and emaciated that they can scarcely lift one fin after the other and to which with unerring instinct they periodically return waxed fat and vigorous, bringing with them the odor of the briny ocean and stained along their supple and sinewy backs with the dark blue-green tint which only the open sea supplies.

HDr a purely American "Walton and Cotton,"* entirely worthy of the subject from a literary point of view, we are indebted to the Reverend Dr. Bethune, who was, to quote from John Hill Burton's "Book-hunter," "in the sunshine a practical angler, and in the darker seasons of the year a Waltonian collector." According to Dr. Wynne, the author of the "Private Libraries of New York," Dr. Bethune's collection included all the editions of Walton, Cotton and Venables in existence, and with few exceptions all the works referred to by Walton, or which tend to illustrate his favorite rambles by the Lea or Dove, but this must be an error, for in the list of Books on Fish and Fishing which Dr. Bethune appends to his "Angler," he claims to have in his Waltonian Library only the second and fourth of the five editions published during Walton's lifetime.

*"Walton and Cotton's Complete Angler," with a biographical preface, and copious notes by the American Editor, Octavo, pp. 584. Wiley & Putnam, New York and London, 1847.

How true and enthusiastic a disciple of Izaak Walton was Dr. Bethune, we can learn best from his own eloquent lips:

"**S**uch a love have I for dear old Izaak, which fondness is not a little heightened by an inborn fondness for, perhaps some skill in his gentle, contemplative art. **T**he stream-side is ever dear to me, and I love to think of the time when I have trudged merrily along it,

finding again in the fresh air and moderate exercise and devout looks upon nature, the strength of nerve, the buoyancy of heart and health of mind, which I had lost in my pent library, and town duties; now I need but to open the pages of 'The Compleat Angler,' and the stream flows by my side, the birds sing for me, the 'daisies, culver keys and lady-smocks' bloom, the bright trout leap, the sinny spoils are won, and a quiet chat enjoyed with the Master and his Scholar under a wide tree shedding off the rain; or by the fire of the wayside Inn, while the hostess, 'clean, handsome and civil,' is taking out sheets 'smelling of lavender' for our beds, in a room that has 'more than twenty ballads stuck against the wall;' or within the little shrine, *Sacrum Piscatoribus*, built by Cotton for his father and 'all true men who love quiet and go an-angling.' I trust that I have drunk enough of the old angler's spirit not to let such pastime break in upon better things; but on the other hand, I have worked the harder for thankfulness to Him who taught the brook to wind with musical gurglings, as it rolls on to the Great Sea."

DR. Bethune's name does not stand alone as an Angler among distinguished Americans. **T**he late George H. Moore, Librarian of the Lenox Library, himself an angler and a

member of the Ammauskeag Fishing Club, furnishes documentary evidence that the Father of his Country was a fisherman—a genuine disciple of Walton, by the following extracts from his diaries which we copy from a little pamphlet privately printed by Dr. Moore in 1887.

Monday, 30th July. ¶ In company with Mr. Govern^r Morris went into the neighborhood of Valley Forge to a Widow Moore's a-fishing, at whose house we lodged.

Tuesday, 31st [July.] ¶ Before breakfast I rode to the Valley Forge and over the whole Cantonment & Works of the American Army in the winter of 1777-8 and on my return to the Widow Moore's found Mr. and Mrs. Rob. Morris. ¶ Spent the day there fishing, etc. and lodged at the same place.

Wednesday, August 1. ¶ Returned about 11 o'clock with the above Company to Philadelphia.

Friday, 3rd Aug., 1787. ¶ Went up to Trenton on a Fishing party with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris and Gov^r Morris. ¶ Dined and lodged at Col. Sam. Ogden's—In the evening fished.

Saturday, 4th. (Aug. 1787) ¶ In the morning and between breakfast and dinner fished. ¶ Dined at General Dickenson's and returned in the evening to Col. Ogden's.

*" Study to
be quiet."

Sunday, 5th. (Aug. 1787) **D**ined at Col. Ogden's and about 4 o'clock set out for Philadelphia—halted an hour at Bristol and reached the city before 9 o'clock.

The itinerary of the outing of this distinguished fishing-party is tantalizingly short and concise, but, perhaps, as Dr. Moore suggests, further research may reveal particulars of these fishings in the Schuylkill and the Delaware or their tributary streams; tell us what sort of fisherman's luck attended Washington and his companions and what tackling they used. **I** suspect, however, that it was not an artificial insect, but a living, wriggling earthworm, or perchance, that most killing of all fresh-water baits, a frisky, succulent grasshopper, that they cast upon the waters in that late summer time. **H**ere is an interesting investigation for some enthusiastic American Waltonian to undertake.

Books on Angling by the score, led by the first "Walton," enrich the collections of not a few of our American bibliophiles, some of whom, I fear, lay undue stress upon that part of Walton's advice to anglers which he took from 1 Ches. IV. xi,* and content themselves with the easy and indolent "sunder-fishing" recommended by Eugene Field, but without these half-hearted ones, there are enough

and to spare of bona-fide anglers. **T**heir name is legion, and when balmy spring is in the air and

. . . . "jocund day

Stands tip-toe on the misty mountain tops,"

they come, trooping down the hill-sides, to find as they approach the "brawling, fretting streams" where "store of fish abound"—What? **W**hy, "marry, sir!" that about every foot of fishing water within reach of civilization is pre-empted, preserved, and posted over with notices which forbid trespassing under penalty of the law. **F**ishing for "trouts" that in our boyhood days was to be had for the asking, and often without that formality, has become a recreation in which only the favored few may indulge. **A**h! happy bygone days! **P**eace be to your memories, old friends of mine, brothers of the angle who have passed over the great divide. **I**n whose pleasant company I followed my rod o'er hills, through valleys, by river's bank, and on the "long line of the vacant shore" in search of that gentleman among salt water fish, the Striped-bass of our rockbound coasts, the Dunaniche, denizen only of the madly rushing rivers which empty into or debouch from Lake St. John in that Sportsman's paradise, the Province of

Quebec, the horny-mouthed Sea-trout of the St. Lawrence, and the wild "Salvelinus fontinalis" of our own virgin forest streams, before any of these waters knew the stringent metes and bounds with which they now are shackled.

Refully the writer recognizes the fact that he is fast becoming an "antient sportsman," and that it behooves him to lay seriously to heart these monitory words of James Saunders in the Preface to his "Fisher-erman's Vade-mecum."

"**T**he Sport of Angling, 'tis true, is the same, and the pleasure of it never abates; but after sixty, much less at seventy, the Banks of the Rivers, the low Meadows and the unwholesome Marshes begin to be too damp, too agueish, too cold for the Gentlemen to sit close to their sport, or to hold it too long at a time; so they begin to decline the old Tracks, and haunt the Barble-Hole or the Trout stream no longer, or at least but a little and that in fine weather," and, when provided, we might add, with one of Mackintosh's patent caoutchouc air cushions that our friend, Mr. Fisher, before quoted, recommends in his "Angler's Souvenir" which "may be conveniently stowed in the hat crown, and when wanted, can in two minutes be blown out to the size of a goodly pillow."

With this admonition of James Saunders, Esq., of Newton-Aubrey upon the River Trent, tolling in my ears like the "knell of parting day," I can still comfort and hearten myself with the remembrance of not a few of my old friends and brother anglers (one in particular who counted that week day lost in which he had not wethis line, but scrupulously abstained from fishing on the Sabbath) who fished with vigor and persistency when they were long past three score and ten. **O**ne dear old gentleman did not lay aside his angle-rod for good and all until he had passed the patriarchal age of ninety-three.

An Angler's "mild, sweet and peaceable" life conduces to health and longevity, to "a sayre aege and a longe." **I**saak Walton proved in his own person the truth of this old and wise saying, for he attained to "full ninety years and past." **H**e was born in 1593 and in 1683 they buried his body in the chapel of Prior Silkstead, in the south aisle of Winchester Cathedral. **H**is bones long time are dust, but his gentle, devout, untroubled spirit lives on forever in the immortal pages of his "Discourse of Fish and Fishing" and over and over again, from age to age, bestows its closing benediction—the blessing of St. Peter's Master upon all that are lovers of virtue; and dare

*John
Dance
Cheney

trust in his Providence—and be quiet—and go a-angling.

† These
three flies
(a White,
Red and
Black Pal-
mer) with
the help of
the lob-
worms serve
to angle all
the year for
the night,
observing
the times
as I have
shewed you
in the next
work—

IT might sweeten a man's temper at any time to read "The Compleat Angler," writes gentle Elia. **S**urely so, for it breathes throughout the spirit of happy contentment with one's lot in life, whatever it may be, that the sixteenth-century poet lauds in his quaint and stately verse, and to which these strains from the tuneful lyre of a modern singer* sound a sweet, a true, and a clear refrain.

Who drives the horses of the sun
Shall lord it but a day;
Better the lowly deed were done
And kept the humble way.

The rust will find the sword of fame.
The dust will hide the crown;
Ay, none shall hang so high his name,
Time will not tear it down.

The happiest heart that ever beat
Was in some quiet breast,
That found the common daylight
sweet
And left to heaven the rest.

IT is sundown and growing damp and dusky and a trifle weird and grewsome here in the "bush." **W**e no longer see our flies

as they alight upon the water, although it is never so dark, according to old Thomas Barker,† that the greedy, sharp-sighted fish cannot espy them to their own undoing. ¶ Pan has left the stream, and the sound of his shepherd's pipe is dying away in the deep glades of the wood. ¶ Our day's fishing is over. ¶ Reluctantly we unjoint our rods and silently, in Indian file, take up the narrow winding trail that leads us homeward through the forest. ¶ Good night to everybody.

the white
flye for
darknets,
the red flye
in medio,
and the
black flye
for light-
nesse.—
Barker's
Delight,
London,
1657.

¶ Explicit



Here endeth the Essay upon the Contempla
tive Man's favorite Recreation, the
writing of which was finished
on the Twenty-second day
of October, Nineteen
Hundred and
Three



**The Treatysle of
Fysshynge wyth an Angle**

Attributed to

Dame Juliana Berners



Where Begynnnyth the Creatysle of Fylshynge
wyth an Angle.



Salamon in his parablys sayth that a good
spyryte makyth a flourynge aege, that is
a fayre aege and a longe. And syth it is soo: I
aske this questyon, whiche ben the meanes and
the causes that enduce a man in to a mery spy-
ryte: Truly to my beste dyscrecon it semeth good
dysportes and honest gamys in whom a man
Joyeth wythout ony repentannce after. Chenne
folowyth it y^e gode dysportes and honest games
ben cause of mannys fayr aege and longe life.

And therefore now woll I chose of foure good disportes and honeste gamys, that is to wyte: of huntynge: hawkyng: fylthyng: and foullynge. The beste to my symple dyscrecon whyche is fylthyng: callyd Anglynge wyth a rodde: and a lyne and an hoke. And therof to treat as my symple wytte may suffyce: both for the sayd reason of Salamon and also for the reason that phisyk makyth in this wyse. ¶ *Si tibi deficient medici medici tibi fiant: hec tria mens leta labor et moderata dieta.*

¶ He shall understonde that this is for to save, ¶ If a man lacke leche or medycyne he shall make thre thynges his leche and medycyne: and he shall nede neuer no moo. The fyrste of theym is a mery thought. The seconde is labour not outrageous. The thyrde is dyete mesurable. Fyrste that yf a man wyll euer more be in mery thoughtes and haue a gladde spyryte: he must eschewe all contraryous company and all places of debate where he myghte haue any occasyons of malencoly. And yf he woll haue a labour not outrageous he must thenne ordeyne him to his hertys ease and pleasaunce wythout studdye pensyfnesse or traueple a mery occupacyon whyche maye reioyce his herte: and in whyche his spyrytes may haue a mery delyte. And yf he woll be dyetyd mesurably he must eschewe all places of ryotte whyche is cause of surfette and of syknesse. And

he must drawe him to places of swete ayre and hungry: And ete nourishable meetes and dyspleasable also.

Now thenne woll I dyscryue the sayd dysportes and gamys to fynde the beste of theym as verily as I can, alle be it that the ryght noble and full worthy prynce the duke of Yorke late callid mayster of game hath dyscryued the myrthes of huntynge like as I thynke to dyscryue of it and of alle the other. For huntynge as to myn entent is to laborious. For the hunter must alwaye renne and folowe his houndes: traueyllynge and swetyng full sore. He blowyth tyll his lippes blyster. And whan he wenyth it be an hare full oft it is an hogge. Thus he chalyth and wote not what. He comyth home at eyn rayn beten pryckyd: and his clothes torne wete thode all myrry. Some hounde losse: some surbat. Suche greues and many other happyth vnto the hunter, whyche for dyspleysaunce of theym y^e loue it I dare not reporte. Thus truly me semyth that this is not the beste dysporte and game of the sayd foure. The dysporte and game of hawkyng is laborious and noyouse also as me semyth. For often the fawkenner leseth his hawkes as the hunter his houndes. Thenne is his game and his dysporte goon. Full often cryeth he and whytelyth

tyll that he be ryght euyll a thurstie. His hawke
taketh a bowe and lysteth not ones on hym rewarde,
whan he wolde haue her for to flee: thenne woll
she bathe, with mys fedynge she shall haue the
Fronse: the Rye: the Cray and many other
syknesses that brynge theym to the Sowle.
Thus by prouff this is not the beste dysporte and
game of the sayd foure. The dysporte and game
of fowlynge me semyth moost symple For in the
wynter seASON the fowler spedyth not but in the
moost hardest and coldest weder: whyche is
greuous. For whan he wolde goo to his gynnes
he maye not for colde. Many a gynne and many
a snare he makyth. Yet sorpylly dooth he fare. At
morn tyde in the dewe he is weete thode vnto
his taylle. Many other suche I coude tell: but
drede of magre makith me for to leue. Thus me
semyth that huntynge and hawkyng and also
fowlynge ben so laborous and greuous that
none of theym maye perfourme nor bi very
meane that enduce a man to a mery spyryte:
whyche is cause of his longe lyfe accordynge
vnto y^e sayd parable of Salamon. ¶ Dowteles
theñe folowyth it that it must nedes be the dys-
porte of fylshyng with an angle. For all other
manere of fylshyng is also laborous and greu-
ous: often makynge folkes ful wete and colde,
whyche many tymes hath be seen cause of grete
Infirmytees. But the angler maye haue no

colde nor no dysleale nor angre, but yf he be causer hymself. For he maye not lese at the mooft but a lyne or an hoke: of whyche he maye haue store plentee of his owne makynge, as this symple treatysle shall teche hym. Soo thenne his losse is not greuous, and other greyffes may he not haue, saupnge but yf ony fishe breke away after that he is take on the hoke, or elles that he catche nought: whyche ben not greuous. For yf he saylle of one he maye not saylle of a nother, yf he dooth as this treatysle techyth: but yf there be nought in the water. And yet atte the leest he hath his hollom walke and mery at his ease, a swete apre of the swete sauoure of the meede floures: that makyth hym hungry. He hereth the melodyous armony of fowles. He seeth the yonge swannes: heerons: duckes: cotes and many other foules wyth theyr brodes; whyche me semyth better than alle the noyse of honndys: the blastes of hornys and the scrye of foulis that hunters: fawkeners and foulers can make. And yf the angler take fyfthe: surely thenne is there noo man merier than he is in his spyryte. **A**lso who soo woll vse the game of anglynge: he must ryse erly, whiche thyng is prouffyttable to man in this wyse, That is to wyte: mooft to the heele of his soule. For it shall cause hym to be holy, and to the heele of his body, For it shall cause hym to be hole. Also to the encrease of his goodys.

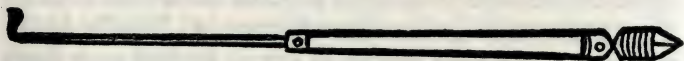
For it shall make hym ryche. As the olde englyshe prouerbe sayth in this wyse. **W**ho so woll ryse erly shall be holy helthy and zely. **T**hus haue I prouyd in myn entent that the dysporte and game of anglynge is the very meane and cause that enducith a man into a mery spyryte: **W**hyche after the sayde parable of Salomon and the sayd doctryne of physyk makyth a flouryng aye and a longe. And therfore to al you that ben vertuous: gentyll: and free borne I wryte and make this symple treatyse solowynge: by whyche ye may haue the full crafte of anglynge to dysport you at your luste: to the entent that your aye maye the more floure and the more lenger to endure.

If ye woll be crafty in anglynge: ye must fyrste lerne to make your barnays, That is to wyte your rodde: your lynys of dyuers colours. After that ye must know how ye shall angle in what place of the water: how depe: and what time of day. For what manere of fylshe: in what wedyr How many impedymentes there ben in fylshynge y^e is callyd anglynge And in speycall wyth what baytys to euery dyuers fylshe in eche moneth of the yere. How ye shall make your baytes brede where ye shall fynde theym: and how ye shall kepe theym. And for the moost crafty thynge how ye shall make

youre hokes of stele and of osmonde, Some for the dubbe; and some for the flote; and the grounde, as ye shall here after al thysle synde expressed openly vnto your knowlege.

And how ye shall make your rodde craftly here I shall teche you. Ye shall kytte betwene Hyghelmas and Candylmas a sayr staffe of a fadom and an halfe longe: and arme grete of hasyll: wplowe: or aspe. And bethe hym in an hote ouyn: and sette hym eynn Chenne lete hym cole and drye a moneth. Takethenne and frette hym faste wyth a cockethotecorde: and bynde hym to a fourme or an eynn square grete tree. Take thenne a plümers wire that is eynn and strepte and sharpe at the one ende. And hete the sharpe ende in a charcole fyre tyll it be whyte: and brenne the staffe therwyth thorough: euer strepte in the pythe at bothe endes tyll they mete. And after that brenne hym in the nether ende wyth a byrde broche, and wyth other broches eche gretter than other. And euer the grettest the lasse: so that ye make your hole aye tapre wexe. Chenne lete hym lye styll and kele two dayes. Unfrette hym theñe and lete hym drye in an hous roof in the smoke tyll he be through drye. **I**n the same season take a sayr yerde of grene hasyll and beth hym eynn and strepghte, and lete it drye with the staffe. And whan they ben drye make the yerde mete vnto the hole in the staffe: vnto halfe the

length of the staffe. And to perfourme that other halfe of the crophe. Take a sayr thote of blacke thorn: crabbe tree: medeler. or of Jenvpre kytte in the same seazon: and well bethyd and streyghte. And frette theym togyder fetely: soo that the crophe maye iustly entre all into the sayd hole. Thenne haue your staffe and make hym tapre were. Thenne vyrell the staffe at bothe endes wyth longe hopis of yren or laton in the clenest wise wyth a pyke in the nether ende fastnyd wyth a rennyng byce: to take in and oute your crophe. Thenne set your crophe an handfull within the ouer ende of your staffe in suche wise that it be as biggethere as in ony other place aboue. Thenne arme your crophe at thour ende downe to yfrette wyth a lyne of .vi. heeres. And dubbe the lyne and frette it fast in yf toppe wyth a bowe to fasten on your lyne. And thus shall ye make you a rodde soo preuy that ye maye walke therwyth: and there shall noo man wyte where abowte ye goo. It woll be lyghte and full nymbyll to fylthe wyth at your luste. And for the more redynesse loo here a fygure therof in example.:



After that ye haue made thus your rodde: ye must lerne to coloure your lynes of here in this wyle. **F**yrste ye must take of a

whyte horse taylle the lengest heere and sayrest that ye can fynde. And euer the rounder it be the better it is. Departe it in to .viij. partes: and euery parte ye shal colour by hymselfe in dyuers colours. As yelow: grene: browne: tawney: russet and duske colours. And for to make a good grene colour on your heer ye shall doo thus. **T**ake smalle ale a quarte and put it in a lityll panne: and put therto halfe a ponde of alym. And put therto your heer: and lete it boylle softly half an houre. Thenne take out your heer and lete it drye. Thenne take a potell of water and put it in a panne. And put therein two handfull of ooldys or of wyxen. And presse it wyth a tyle stone: and lete it boylle softly half an houre. And whan it is yelow on the scume put therein your heer wyth halfe a ponde of coporose betyn in powdre and lete it boylle halfe a myle waye: and thenne sette it downe: and lete it kelesyue or syxe houres: Then take out the heer and drye it. And it is thenne the fynest grene that is for the water. And euer the more ye put therto of coporose the better it is. or elles in stede of it vertgrees.

Another wyse ye maye make more bryghter grene, as thus Lete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour And thenne sethe hym in olde or wyxin lyke as I haue sayd: sauyng ye shall not put therto neyther coporose

ue vertgrees. **F**or to make your heer yelow
dyght it wyth alym as I haue sayd before. And
after that wyth oldys or wyxin wythout copoc-
ose or vertgrees. **A**nother yelow ye shal make
thns. Take smalle ale a potell: and stampe thre
handful of walnot leues and put togider: And
put in your heer tyll that it be as depe as ye woll
haue it. **F**or to make russet heer. Take stronge
lye a pynt and halfe a pounce of sote and a
lytyl iuce of walnot leuys and a quarte of alym:
and put theym alle togyder in a panne and
boyle theym well. And whan it is colde put in
youre heer tyll it be as derke as ye woll haue it.
For to make a browne colour. Take a pounce
of sote and a quarte of ale: and seth it wyth as
many walnot leuys as ye maye. And whan they
wexe blacke sette it from the fire. And put therin
your heer and lete it lye styll tyll it be as browne
as ye woll haue it.
For to make a nother browne. Take strong
ale and sote and tempre them togyder, and put
therin your heer two dayes and two nyghtes and
it shal be ryght a good colour.
For to make a tawney couloure. Take lyme
and water and put theym togyder: and also put
your heer therin foure or syue houres. Thenne
take it out and put it in a Canners ose a day:
and it shal be also fyne a tawney colour as
nedyth to our purpoos. **T**he syxte parte of your

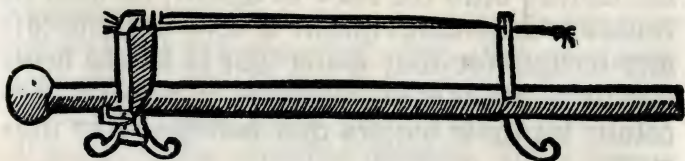
beer ye shall kepe styll whyte for lynes for the dubbyd hoke to fyssh for the tought and graylynge and for smalle lynes for to rye for the roche and the darle.

Whan your beer is thus colourid : ye must knowe for whiche waters and for whyche seasons they shall serue.

¶ The grene colour in all clere water from Apryll tyll Septembre. ¶ The yelow colour in euery clere water from Septembre tyll Nouembre : For it is lyke ye wedys and other manere grasse whiche growyth in the waters and ryuers whan they ben broken. ¶ The russet colour seruyth all the wynter vnto the ende of Apryll, as well in ryuers as in poles or lakys. ¶ The browne colour seruyth for that water that is blacke dedyshe in ryuers or in other waters. ¶ The tawney colour for those waters that ben hethy or mo-ryshe.

Now must ye make youre lynes in this wyse. Fyrst loke that ye haue an Instru-ment lyke vnto this fygure portrayed folowynge. Thenne take your beer and kytte of the smalle ende an hondfull large or more. For it is neyther stronge nor yet sure. Thenne torne the toppe to the taylle eueryche plyke moche. And departe it in to thre partyes. Thenne knytte euery part at

the one ende by hymself. And at the other ende knytte all thre togyder: and put y^e same ende in that other ende of your Instrument that hath but one clyft. And sett that other ende faste wyth the wegge foure syngers in alle shorter than your heer. Thenne twyne euery warpe one waye and plyke moche: and fasten theym in thre clystes plyke streyghte. Take thenne out that other ende and twyne it that waye that it woll desyre ynough. Thenne streyne it a lytell: and knytte it for vndoyng: and that is good. And for to knowe to make your Instrument: loo here it is in fygure. And it shall be made of tree sauynge the bolte vnderneath: whiche shall be of yren.



Whan ye haue as many of the lynkys as ye suppose wol suffyse for the length of a lyne: thenne must ye knytte theym togyder wyth a water knotte or elles a duchys knotte. And whan your knotte is knytte: kytte of y^e voyde thorte endes a strawe brede for the knotte. Thus shal ye make youre lynes sayr and fyne: and also ryght sure for ony manere fyssh. ¶ And by cause that ye sholde knowe bothe the water knotte

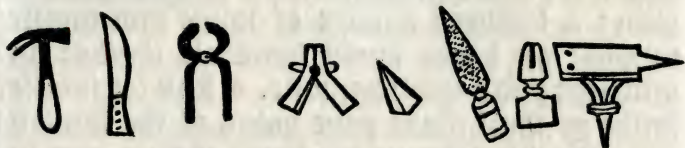
and also the duchys knotte : loo theym here in
fpygure caste vnto the lyknesse of the draughte.*

WE shall vnderstonde that the moost sub-
tyll and hardyste crafte in makynge of
your barnays is for to make your hokis. For
whoos makynge ye must haue sete fyles. thyn
and sharpe and smalle beten : A semp clamm of
pyren : a bender : a payr of longe and smalle
tongys : an harde knyfe somdeale thicke : an
anuelde : and a lytyll hamour. And for smalle
fpythe ye shall make your hokes of the smalett
quarell nedlys that ye can fynde of stele, and in
this wyse. We shall put the quarell in a redde
charkcole fyre tyll that it be of the same colour
that the fyre is. Thenne take hym out and lete
hym kele : and ye shal fynde him well alayd for
to fyle. Thenne replethe berde wyth your knyfe,
and make the poynt sharpe. Thenne alaye hym
agayn : for elles he woll breke in the bendyng.
Thenne bende hym lyke to the bende fyguryd
herafter in example. And gretter hokes ye shall
make in the same wyse of gretter nedles : as bro-
derers nedlis : or taylers : or thomakers nedlis
spere poyntes, and of thomakers nalles in espe-
cyall the beste for grete fpythe, and that they
bende atte the poynt whan they ben assayed, for
elles they ben not good. When the hoke is
bendyd bete the hynder ende abroad : and fyle it

*A blank
space is
here left in
the original
editions
for the in-
sertion of
drawings of
the water
knot and
the dutch-
ell's knot.
The former
is described
in Dan-
iel's Rural
Sports,
vol. 2, p.
151, and
Walton's
Angler, by
Hawkins,
part 1, p.
255,
(Edition of
1760) and
plate 10,
fig. 5 : of
the latter
see the La-
dies' Dic-
tionary,
Art.
Appurten-
ances to
Dressing.

smothe for fretynge of thy lyne. Thenne put it in the fyre agayn: and yeue it an easy redde hete. Thenne todaynly quenche it in water: and it woll be harde and stronge. And for to haue knowledge of your Instrumentes: lo theym here in fygure portrayd.

Chamour. Knyfe. Pynsons. Clam



Wegge. Fyle. Wrette. and Anuelde.

Whan ye haue made thus your hokis: thenne must ye set theym on your lynes acordynge in gretnesse and strength in this wyse. **U**se shall take smalle redde silke. And yf it be for a grete hoke theñe double it: not twynyd. And elles for smale hokys lete it be syngle: and therwyth frette thycke the lyne there as the one ende of your hoke shall lytte a strawe brede. Then sette there your hoke: and frette hym wyth the same threde y^e two partes of the lengthe that shall be frette in all. And whan ye come to the thyrde parte thenne torne the ende of your lyne agayn vpon the frette dowble. And frette it so dowble that other thyrde parte. Thenne put your threde in at the hole twys or thries and lete it goo at

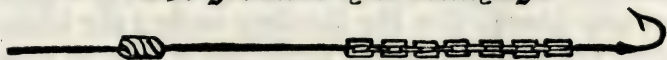
echē tyme rounde abowte the yerde of your hoke. Thenne wete the hole and draue it tyll that it be laste. And loke that your lyne lye euermore wythin your hokys : and not without. Thenne kytte of the lynys ende and the threde as nyghe as ye maye: saupnge the frette.

Now ye knowe wyth how grete hokys ye shall angle to every fylthe: now I woll tell you wyth how many heeres ye shall to every manere of fische. ¶ For the menow wyth a lyne of one heere. For the waxng roche : the bleke and the gogyn and the russe wyth a lyne of two heeris. For the darle and the grete roche wyth a lyne of thre heeres. For the perche: the flouder and bremet with foure heeres. For the cheuen chubbe : the breme : the tenche and the ele wyth .vi. heeres. For the troughte: graylynge: barbyll and the grete cheupn wyth .ix. heeres. For the grete troughte wyth .xii. heeres. For the samon wyth .xv. heeres. And for the pyke wyth a chalke lyne made browne with your browne colour asorlayd: armyd with a wyre. as ye shal here herafter whan I speke of the pyke.

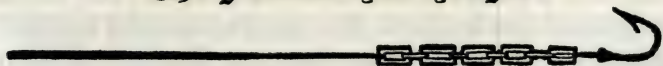
¶ Your lynes must be plumbid wyth lede. And ye shall wyte y^e the nexte pūbe vnto the hoke shall be therfro a large fote and more. And every plumbe of a quantyte to the gretnes of the lyne. There be thre manere of plūbis for a grounde

lyne rennyng. And for the flote set vpon the
grounde lyne lyenge .x. plumbes Joynyng all
togider. On the grounde lyne rennyng. ix. or
.x. smalle. The flote plūbe shall be so heuy y^e
the leest plucke of ony fylshe maye pull it downe
in to y^e water. And make your plūbis rounde
and smothe y they stycke not on stonys or on
wedys. And for the more vnderstondyng lo
theym here in fygure.

The grounde lyne rennyng



The grounde lyne lyenge.

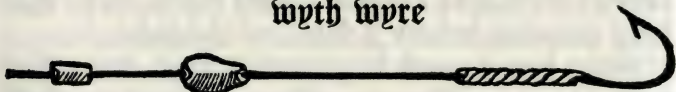


The flote lyne



The lyne for perche or tenche.

The lyne for a pyke: Plūbe: Corke armpd
wyth wyre



Whenne shall ye make your flotys in this
wyle. Take a fayr corke that is clene
without many holes. and bore it through wyth

a smalle hote yren: And putt therin a penne luste and streyghte. Euer the more flote the gretter penne and the greter hole. Chenne shape it grete in the myddis and smalle at bothe endys and specyally sharpe in the nether ende, and lyke vnto the fygyres folowynge. And make theym smothe on a gryndyng stone: or on a tyle stone. ¶ And loke that the flote for one heer be nomore than a pese. For two heeres: as a beene. for twelue heeres: as a walnot. And soo euery lyne after the proporcon. ¶ All manere lynes that ben not for the groude must haue flotes. And the rennyng grounde lyne must haue a flote. The lyenge grounde lyne wythout flote.



Now I haue lernyd you to make all your barnays. Here I woll tell you how ye shall angle. ¶ We shall angle: vnderstonde that there is .vi. manere of anglyng. That one is at the grounde for the troughte and other fische. A nother is at y^e grounde at an arche, or at a stange where it ebbyth and flowyth: for bleke: roche. and darle. The thyrde is wyth a flote for all manere of fische. The fourth wyth a menow for y^e troughte wythout plumbe or flote. The fyfth

is rennyng in y^e same wyse for roche and darle
wyth one or two heeres and a flye. The fyrte is
wyth a dubbyd hoke for the troughte and gray-
lyng. ¶ And for the fyrste and pryncypall poynt
in anglyng: kepe y^e euer fro the water fro the
sight of the fyshe: other ferre on the londe: or
ellys behynde a bushe that the fyshe see you
not. For yf they doo they wol not byte. ¶ Also
loke that ye shadow not the water as moche as
ye may. For it is that thyng that woll soone
fraye the fyshe. And yf a fyshe be afrayed he woll
not bite longe after. For alle manere fyshe that
fede by the grounde ye shall angle for theim to
the botom soo that your hokys shall renne or
lye on the grounde. And for alle other fyshe that
fede aboue ye shall angle to theym in the myddes
of the water or somdeale byneth or somdeale
aboue. For euer the gretter fische the nerer he lyeth
the botom of the water. And euer the smaller
fyshe the more he swimmyth aboue. ¶ The
thyrde good poynt is whan the fyshe bytyth that
ye be not to hasty to smyte nor to late. For ye
must abide tyll ye suppose that the bayte be ferre
in the mouth of the fyshe, and thenne abyde noo
longer. And this is for the groude. ¶ And for the
flote whan ye se it pullyd softly vnder the water:
or elles carped vpon the water softly: thenne
smyte. And loke that ye neuer ouersmyte the
strengthe of your lyne for brekyng. ¶ And yf it

fortune you to Smyte a grete fylshe wyth a smalle barnays: thenne ye must lede hym in the water and labour him there tyll he be drownyd and ouercome. Thennetake hym as well as ye can or maye. and euer bewaar that ye holde not ouer the strengthe of your lyne. And as moche as ye maye lete hym not come out of your lynes ende streyghte from you: But kepe hym euer vnder the rodde and euermore holde hym streyghte: soo that your lyne may susteyne and beere his lepps and his plungys wyth the helpe of your croppe and of your bonde.

Here I woll declare vnto you in what place of the water ye shall angle. Ye shall angle in a pole or in a stondinge water in euery place where it is ony thyng depe. There is not grete choyle of ony places where it is ony thyng depe in a pole. For it is but a pryson to fylshe. and they lyue for ye more parte in hungre lyke prisoners: and therefore it is the lesse maystry to take theym. But in a ryuer ye shall angle in euery place where it is depe and clere by the grounde: as grauell or claye wythout mudde or wedys. And in especyall yf that there be a manere whyrlynge of water or a couert. As an holow banke: or grete rotys of trees: or longe wedes fletyng aboue in the water where the fylshe maye couere and hyde theymself at certayn tymes whan they

lyste. Also it is good for to angle in depe styffe stremps and also in fallys of waters and weares: and in floode gatys and mylle pyttes. And it is good for to angle where as the water restyth by the banke: and where the streme rennyth nyghe there by: and is depe and clere by the grounde and in ony other placys where ye may se ony fysth houe or hane ony fedynge.

Now ye shall wyte what tyme of the daye ye shall angle. ¶ From the begynnynge of May vntyll it be Septembre the bytynge tyme is erly by the morowe from foure of y^e clocke vnto eyghthe of the clocke. And at after none from foure of the clocke vnto eyghthe of the clocke: but not soo good as is in the mornynge. And yf it be a colde whystelyng wynde and a derke lowrynge daye. For a derke daye is moche better to angle in than a clere daye. ¶ From the begynnynge of Septembre vnto the ende of Apryll spare noo tyme of the daye:

¶ Also many pole fysthes woll byte beste in the none tyde.

¶ And yf ye se ony tyme of the daye the troughte or graylynge lepe: angle to hym wyth a dubbe accordynge to the same month And where the water ebbyth and flowyth the fysthe woll byte in some place at the ebbe: and in some place at the flood. After y^e they haue restynge behynde stang:

nys and archys of brydgys and other suche manere places.

Here ye shall wyte in what weder ye shall angle. as I sayd before in a derke lowryng daye whanne the wynde blowyth softly. And in somer season whan it is brennyng hote thenne it is nought. ¶ From Septembre vnto Apryll in a fayr sonny daye is ryght good to angle. And yf the wynde in that season haue ony parte of the Dryent: the wedyr thenne is nought. And whan it is a grete wynde. And whan it snowith reynyth or hayllyth. or is a grete tempeste, as thondyr, or lightenyng: or a swoly hote weder: thenne it is noughte for to angle.

Now shall ye wyte that there ben twelue manere of ympedymentes whyche cause a man to take noo fyllthe, w^t out other comyn that maye casuelly happe. ¶ The fyrst is yf your barnays be not mete nor fetly made. The seconde is yf your baytes be not good nor fyne. The thyrde is yf that ye angle not in bytyng tyme. The fourth is yf that the fyllthe be fraped w^t the syghte of a man. The fyfth yf the water be very thycke: whyte or redde of ony floode late fallen. The syxte yf the fyllthe styre not for colde. The seuenth yf that the wedyr be hote. The eyght yf it rayne. The nynthe yf it hayll or snow falle.

The tenth is yf it be a tempeste. The enleuenth is yf it be a grete wynde. The twelfyth yf the wynde be in the West, and that is worste For comynly neyther wynter nor somer y^e fyllthe woll not byte thenne. The weste and northe wyndes ben good but the south is beste.

AND now I haue tolde you how to make your barnays : and how ye shall fyllthe therwyth in al poyntes. Reason woll that ye knowe wyth what baytes ye shall angle to euery manere of fyllthe in euery moneth of the yere, whyche is all the effecte of the crafte. And wythout whyche baytes knowen well by you all your other crafte here toforn auayllyth you not to purpose. For ye can not brynge an hoke in to a fyllth mouth wythout a bayte. Whiche baytes for euery manere of fyllth and for euery moneth here folowyth in this wyse.

EDr by cause that the Samon is the moost statelly fyllth that ony man maye angle to in fresshe water. Therfore I purpose to begyn at hym. ¶ The samon is a gentyll fyllthe : but he is comborous for to take. For comynly he is but in depe places of grete ryuers. And for the more parte he holdyth the myddys of it : that a man maye not come at hym. And he is in season from Marche vnto Myghelmas. ¶ In whyche season

ye shall angle to hym wyth thysle baytes whan ye maye gete theym. Fyrste wyth a redde worme in the begynnyng and endynge of the season. And also wyth a bobbe that bredyth in a dunghyll. And specyally wyth a fouerayn bayte that bredyth on a water docke. **A**nd he bytith not at the grounde : but at y^e flote. Also ye may take hym: but it is seldom seen with a dubbe at suche tyme as whan he lepyth in lyke fourme and manere as ye doo take a troughte or a gryalynge. And thysle baytes ben well prouyd baytes for the samon.

The Troughte for by cause he is a right deyntous fyssh and also a ryght seruente: byter we shall speke nexte of hym. He is in season fro Marche vnto Myghelmas. He is on clene granely grounde and in a streme. He may angle to hym all tymes wyth a grounde lyne lyenge or rennyng: sayng in lepyng tyme. and thenne wyth a dubbe. And erly wyth a rennyng grounde lyne. and forth in the daye wyth a flote lyne.

Ye shall angle to hym in Marche wyth a new hangyd on your hoke by the nether nesse wythout flote or plumbe : drawynge vp and downe in the streme tyll ye fele hym faste. **I**n the same tyme angle to hym wyth a groude lyne with a redde worme for the moost sure. **I**n Aprill take the same baytes : and also Inneba

other wyse namyd .viij. eyes. Also the canker that bredyth in a grete tree and the redde snayll. ¶ In May take y stone flye and the bobbe vnder the cowe torde and the sylke worme: and the bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf. ¶ In Iuny take a redde worme and nypppe of the heed: and put on thyn hoke a codworme byforn. ¶ In Iuyll take the grete redde worme and the codworme togyder. ¶ In August take a flesche flye and the grete redde worme and the fatte of the bakon: and bynde abowte thy hoke. ¶ In Septembre take the redde worme and the menew. ¶ In Octobre take the same: for they ben specyall for the thought all tymes of the yere. From Aprill tyll Septembre y^e trough lepyth. thenne angle to hym wyth a dubbyd hoke acordynge to the moneth, whyche dubbyd hokys ye shall fynde in thende of this treatyle: and the monethys wyth theym.:

The grayllynge by a nother name callyd vmbre ia a delycyous fylthe to mannys mouthe. And ye maye take hym lyke as ye doo the thought. And thys ben his baytes. ¶ In Marche and in Apryll the redde worme. ¶ In May the grene worme: a lpyll breyled worme: the docke canker. and the hawthorn worme. ¶ In June the bayte that bredyth betwene the tree and the barke of an oke. ¶ In Iuyll a bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf: and the grete redde worme. And

nyppe of the hede: and put on your hoke a cod-
worme before. ¶ In August the redde worme:
and a docke worme. And al the yere after a redde
worme.

The barbyll is a swete fylshe, but it is a
quasy meete and a peryllous for mannys
body. For comynly he yeuyth an introducion
to y^e Febres. And yf he be eten rawe: he maye
be cause of mannys dethe: whyche hath oft be
seen. Chyse be his baytes. ¶ In Marche and in
Apryll take sayr freshe chese: and laye it on a
borde and kytte it in small square pecys of the
lengthe of your hoke. Take thenne a candyl and
brenne it on the ende at the poynt of your hoke
tyll it be yelow. And theñe bynde it on your
hoke with fletchers sylke: and make it rough lyke
a welbede. This bayte is good all the somer sea-
son. ¶ In May and June take y^e hawthorn
worme and the grete redde worme and nyppe
of the heed. And put on your hoke a codworme
before. and that is a good bayte. In Iuyll take
the redde worme for cheyl and the hawthorn
worme togyd. Also the water docke leyf worme
and the hornet worme togyder. ¶ In August and
for all the yere take the talowe of a shepe and
solte chese: of eche plyke moche: and a lytyll hony
and grynde or stampe theym togyd longe. and
tempre it tyll it be tough. And put therto floure
a lytyll and make it on smalle pelletys. And y^e

is a good bayte to angle wyth at the grounde
And loke that it synke in the water. or ellys it
is not good to this purpoos.

The carpe is a deuyntous fyste: but there
ben but fewe in Englonde. And therfore
I wryte the laste of hym. He is an euill fyste
to take. For he is soo stronge enarmyd in the
mouth that theremaye noo weke barnays holde
hym. And as touchynge his baytes I haue but
lytyll knowlege of it And me were loth to wryte
more than I knowe and haue prouyd But well
I wote that the redde worme and the menow
ben good baytys for hym at all tymes as I haue
herde saye of persones credyble and also founde
wryten in bokes of credence.

The cheuyn is a stately fyste and his heed
is a depty morsell. There is noo fyste soo
strongly enarmyd wyth scalys on the body. And
bi cause he is a stronge byter he hathe the more
baytes, whiche ben thysle. **I**n Marche the redde
worme at the grounde: For comynly thenne he
woll byte there at all tymes of y^e yere yf he be
onythinge hungry. **I**n Apryll the dyche canker
that bredith in the tree. A worme that bredith be-
twene the rynde and the tree of an oke The redde
worme: and the yonge frosthyss whan the fete ben
kylt of. Also the stone flye the bobbe vnder the

cowe torde: the redde snaylle. In May y^e bayte that bredyth on the osper leyf and the docke canker togyd vpon your hoke. Also a bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf: y^e codworme and a bayte that bredyth on an hawthorn. And a bayte that bredyth on an oke leyf and a sylke worme and a codworme togyder. ¶ In June take the creket and the dorre and also a red worme: the heed kytte of and a codworme before: and put theym on y^e hoke. Also a bayte in the osper leyf: yonge froshys the thre sete kitte of by the body: and the fourth by the knee. The bayte on the hawthorn and the codworme togyder and a grubbe that bredyth in a dunghyll: and a grete greshop. ¶ In Iupll the greshop and the bumbylbee in the medow. Also yonge bees and yonge hornettes. Also a grete brended flye that bredith in pathes of medowes and the flye that is amonge pylmeers byllys. ¶ In August take wortwormes and magotes vnto Myghelmas. ¶ In Septembre the redde worme: and also take the baytes whan ye may gete theym: that is to wyte, Cheryes: yonge myce not heeryd: and the house combe.

The breme is a noble fyssh and a deyn-
tous. And ye shall angle for hym from
Marche vnto August wyth a redde worme: and
theñe wyth a butter flye and a grene flye. and
with a bayte that bredyth amonge grene rede:

and a bayte that bredyth in the barke of a deed tree. **A**nd for bremettis: take maggotes. **A**nd fro that tyme forth all the yere after take the red worme: and in the ryuer browne breede. **W**ho baytes there ben but they ben not easly and therefore I lete theym passe ouer.

A Tenche is a good fylth: and heelith all manere of other fylth that ben hurte yf they maye come to hym. He is the most parte of the yere in the mudde. And he styrth moost in June and Iuly: and in other seasons but lytill. He is an euill byter. his baytes ben thyle. For all the yere browne breede tostyde wyth hony in lyknesse of a butteryd loof: and the grete redde worme. And as for cheyf take the blacke blood in y^e herte of a shepe and floure and hony. And tempre theym all togyder somdeale softer than paast: and anoynt therwyth the redde worme: bothe for this fylth and for other. And they woll byte moche the better therat at all tymes.

The perche is a daynteuous fylth and passynge hollsom and a free bytyng. Chise ben his baytes. In Marche the redde worme. In Aprill the bobbe vnder the cowe torde. In Maye the slothorn worme and the codworme. In June the bayte that bredith in an olde fallen oke and the grete canker. In Iuyll the bayte that bredyth on the osyer leyf and the bobbe that bredeth on the

dung hyll: and the hawthorn worme and the codworme. In August the redde worme and maggotes. All the yere after the red worme as for the beste.

The roche is an easy fyssh to take: And yf he be fatte and pennyd thenne is he good meete. And thys ben his baytes. In Marche the most redy bayte is the red worme. In Apryll the bobbe vnder the cowe torde. In May the bayte y^e bredyth on the oke leyl and the bobbe in the dunghyll. In June the bayte that bredith on the osyer and the codworme. In Iuyll hous flies. and the bayte that bredith on an oke. and the notworme and mathewes and maggotes tyll Myghelmas. And after y^e the fatte of bakon.

The dace is a gentyll fyssh to take. And yf it be well refet then is it good meete. In Marche his bayte is a redde worme. In Apryll the bobbe vnder the cowe torde. In May the docke canker and the bayte on y^e clothorn and on the oken leyl. In June the codworme and the bayte on the osyer and the whyte grubbe in y^e dunghyll. In Iuyll take hous flies and flies that brede in pyfmer hylles: the codworme and maggotes vnto Myghelmas. And yf the water be clere ye shall take fyssh whan other take none And fro that tyme forth doo as ye do for the roche. For comynly theyr bytynge and theyr baytes ben lyke.

The bleke is but a feble fyssh. yet he is hol-

com his baytes from Marche to Wyghelmas be the same that I haue wryten before. For the roche and darle sauynge all the somer season as moche as ye maye angle for hym wyth an house flye: and in wynter season w^t bakon and other bayte made as ye herafter may know.

The rus is ryght an hollosom fylshe: And ye shall angle to him wyth the same baytes in al seasons of the yere and in the same wise as I haue tolde you of the perche: for they ben lyke in fylshe and fedinge, sauynge the rus is lesse. And therefore he must haue y^e smaller bayte.

The flounder is an hollosom fische and a free. and a subtyll byter in his manere: For comynly whan he soukyth his meete he sedyth at grounde. And therefore ye must angle to hym wyth a groundelyne lyenge. And he hath but one manere of bayte. And that is a red worme. whiche is moost cheyf for all manere of fische. **T**he gogen is a good fische of the mochenes: and he byteth wel at the grounde. And his baytes for all the yere ben thysle. y^e red worme: codworme: and maggotes. And ye must angle to him w^t a flote. And lete your bayte be nere y^e botom or ellis on y^e grounde.

The menow whan he thynith in the water then is he byttyr And though his body be lytill yet he is a rauenous biter and an egre. And ye shall angle to hym wyth the same baytes that ye

doo for the gogyn : saupnge they must be smalle.

The ele is a quasy fyssh a rauenour and a deuourer of the brode of fyssh. And for the pyke also is a deuourer of fyssh I put them bothe behynde all other to angle. For this ele ye shall fynde an hole in the grounde of the water. And it is blew blackfyssh there put in youre hoke tyll that it be a fote wythin y^e hole. and your bayte shall be a grete angyll twytchor a menow.

The pyke is a good fyssh : but for he deuouryth so many as well of his owne kynde as of other : I loue hym the lesse. And for to take hym ye shall doo thus. Take a codlynge hoke : and take a roche or a freshe heeryng and a wyre wyth an hole in the ende : and put it in at the mouth and out at the taylle downe by the ridge of the freshe heeryng. And thenne put the lyne of your hoke in after. and drawe the hoke in to the cheke of y^e freshe heeryng. Then put a plumbe of lede vpon your lyne a yerde longe from youre hoke and a flote in mydwayne betwene : and caste it in a pytte where the pyke vsyth. And this is the beste and moost surest crasse of takynge the pyke.

Another manere takynge of hym there is. Take a trolle and put it on your hoke at the necke bytwene the skynne and the body on y^e backe halfe : and put on a flote a yerde therfro : and caste it where the pyke hauntyth and ye shall haue hym.

Another manere. Take the same bayte and put

it in Ala fetida and cast it in the water wyth a corde and a corke: and ye shall not fayll of hym. And yf ye lyst to haue a good sporte: thenne tye the corde to a gosse fote: and ye shall se god halynge whether the gosse or the pyke shall haue the better.

Now ye wote with what baytes and how ye shall angle to euery manere fyste. Now I woll tell you how ye shall kepe and fede your quicke baytes. Ye shall fede and kepe them all in generall: but euery manere by hymself wyth suche thyng in and on whiche they brede. And as longe as they ben quicke and newe they ben fyne. But whan they ben in a slough or elles deed thenne benthey nought. Dute of thys ben excepted thre brodes: That is to wyte of hornettys: humblybees. and waspys. whom ye shall bake in breede and after dyppe theyr heedes in blode and letethem drye. Also excepte maggotes: whyche whan thei ben bredde grete wyth theyr naturell fedynge: ye shall fede theym ferthermore wyth shepes talow and wyth a cake made of floure and hony. thenne woll they be more grete. And whan ye haue clensyd theym wyth sonde in a bagge of blanket kepte hote vnder your gowne or other warme thyngtwo houres or thre. then ben they beste and redy to angle wyth. And of the froste kytte y^e legge by the knee. of the grasshop the leggs and wynges by the body.

Thyse ben baytes made to laste all the yere. Fyrste been floure and lene flesche of the hepis of a cony or of a catte: virgyn waxe and shepps talowe: and braye theym in a morter: And thenne tempre it at the fyre wyth a lytyll purfeyd hony: and soo make it vp in lytyll ballys and bayte therwyth your hokys after theyr quantyte. And this is a good bayte for all manere fresche fysh.

Another. take the sewet of a shepe and chese in lyke quantyte: and braye theim togider longe in a mortere: And take thenne floure and tempre it therwyth. and after that alaye it wyth hony and make ballys therof. and that is for the barbyll in especyall.

Another for darle and roche and bleke. take whete and sethe it well and thenne put it in blood all a daye and a nyghte. and it is a good bayte.

For baytes for grete fysh kepe specyally this rule. When ye haue take a grete fysh: vndo the mawre. and what ye fynde therin make that your bayte: for it is beste.

Thyse ben the .xij. fyles wyth whyche ye shall angle to y^r trougth and grayllyng, and dubbe lyke as ye shall now here me tell.

Marche.

The donne flye the body of the donne wull and the wyngis of the pertryche. A nother doone flye. the body of blacke wull: the wynges of the blackyst drake: and the Jay vnder the wynges and vnder the tayle.

Apryll.

The stone flye. the body of blacke wull: and yelow vnder the wynges. And vnder the tayle and the wynges of the drake. In the begynnynge of May a good flye. the body of roddyd wull and lappid abowte wyth blacke sylke: the wynges of the drake and of the redde capons hakyll.

May. **T**he yelow flye. the body of yelow wull: the wynges of the redde cocke hakyll and of the drake lyttyd yelow. The blacke louter. the body of blacke wull and lappyd abowte wyth the herle of y^e pecok tayle: and the wynges of y^e redde capon w^t a blew heed.

June. **T**he donne cutte: the body of blacke wull and a yelow lyfte after eyther syde: the wynges of the bosarde bounde on with barkyd hempe. The maure flye. the body of doske wull the wynges of the blackest mayle of the wylde drake. The tandy flye at saynt Wyllyams daye. the body of tandy wull and the wynges contrary eyther ayenst other of the whitest mayle of y^e wylde drake.

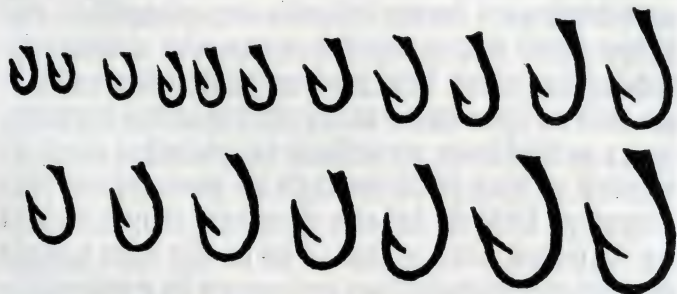
Jully.

The waspe flye. the body of blacke wull and lappid abowte w^t yelow threde: the winges of the bosarde. The shell flye at saynt Thomas

daye. the body of grene wull and lappyd abowte
wyth the herle of the pecoks tayle: wynges of the
bolarde.

August. **T**he drake flye. the body of blacke
wull and lappyd abowte wyth blacke fylke:
wynges of the mayle of the blacke drake wyth a
blacke heed.

Thyse fygyres are put here in ensample of
your hokes.



Here folowyth the order made to all those
whiche shall haue the vnderstandynge of this
forsayd treatyse and vse it for theyr pleasures.

That can angle and take fyfthe to your
pleasures as this forsayd treatyse techyth
and shewyth you: I charge and requyre you in
the name of alle noble men that ye fyfthe not in
noo poore mannes seuerall water: as his ponde:
stewe: or other necessary thynges to kepe fyfthe

in wythout his lycence and good wyll. ¶ Nor that ye vse not to breke noo mannys gynnyngs lyenge in theyr weares and in other places due vnto theym. Ne to take the fyfthe awaye that is taken in theym. For after a fyfthe is taken in a mannys gynne yf the gynne be layed in the comyn waters: or elles in suche waters as he hireth, it is his owne propre goodes. And yf ye take it awaye ye robbe hym: whyche is a ryght shamefull dede to ony noble man to do y^t that theuys and brybours done: whyche are punysshed for theyr euyll dedes by the necke and otherwyle whan they maye be aspyed and taken: And also yf ye doo in lyke manere as this treatise shewyth you: ye shal haue nonede to take of other menys: whyles ye shal haue ynough of your owne taking yf ye lyst to labour therfore. whyche shall be to you a very pleasure to se the sayr bryght thynnyng scalyd fyfthes dysceyued by your crafty meanes and drawen vpon londe. ¶ Also that ye breke noo mannys beggys in goynge abowte your dysportes: ne opyn noo mannes gates but that ye shytt theym agayn. ¶ Also ye shall not vse this forsayd crafty dysporte for no couetylenes to thencreatynge and sparynge of your money oonly, but pryncypally for your solace and to cause the helthe of your body. and specyally of your soule. For whanne ye purpoos to goo on your dysportes in fyfthyng ye woll not desyre gretly

many persones wyth you. whiche myghte lette you of your game. And thenne ye maye serue god deuowtly in sayenge affectuouly youre custumable prayer. And thus doyng ye shall eschewe and voyde many vices. as ydlnes whych is pryncypall cause to enduce man to many other vices. as it is ryght well knowen. ¶ Also ye shall not be to rauenous in takynge of your sayd game as to moche at one tyme: whiche ye maye lyghtly doo yf ye doo in euery poynt as this present treatyse shewyth you in euery poynt. whych sholde lyghtly be occasyon to dystrope your owne dyportes and other mennys also. As whan ye haue a suffycient mele ye sholde coueyte no more as at that tyme. ¶ Also ye shall besye your selfe to nourysh the game in all that ye maye: and to dystrope all suche thynges as ben deuourers of it. ¶ And all those that done after this rule shall haue the blessinge of god and saynt Petyr, whych he theym graunte that wyth his precyous blood vs boughte.

¶ And for by cause that this present treatyse sholde not come to the hondys of eche ydle person whych wolde desire it yf it were enprynted allone by itself and put in a lytell plaunflet therefore I haue compyllyd it in a greter volume of dyuerse bokys concernynge to gentyll and noble men to the entent that the forsayd ydle persones

lxxxvi Creatyle of Fysshynge

whyche holde haue but lypyll mesure in the sayd
dysporte of fysshynge holde not by this meane
utterly dystrope it.

CEmprynted at Westmestre by Wynkyn the
Worde the yere Thyncarnacon of our Lorde.
M. CCCC. LXXXVIJ.



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